

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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USCINCEUR

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CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0893

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: RATIONALIZATION/SPECIALIZATION - CONSOLIDATION OF
COMMUNICATIONS

REF: USNATO 6959

THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS TEXT OF LETTER DATED FEB 14 FROM USNATO
DEFENSE ADVISOR TO DSYG PANS, COPY TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE
EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP. THE JOINT COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS
WORKING GROUP (JCEWG) HAS MADE A START IN RATIONALIZATION WORK
INVOLVING CONSOLIDATION OF COMMUNICATIONS. HOWEVER, THE PROSPECTS
FOR FURTHER SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS ARE DISCOURAGED AND WE FEEL
EWG SHOULD HAVE THE BENEFIT OF AN EARLY REPORT WHICH WOULD IDENTIFY
OBSTACLES.

BEGIN TEXT:

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DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR:

IN OCTOBER 1974 THE EWG REQUESTED THAT THE NATO JOINT
COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS COMMITTEE (NJCEC) UNDERTAKE A STUDY ON

CONSOLIDATION OF COMMUNICATIONS. THE NJCEC THEN TASKED THE JOINT COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS WORKING GROUP (JCEWG) TO PREPARE A REPORT, AS A MATTER OF PRIORITY ON:

A. THE EXTENT TO WHICH RATIONALIZATION WOULD BE PRACTICABLE THROUGH "CONSOLIDATION" OF NATIONAL AND NATO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS; AND B. THE TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL FEASIBILITY, BENEFITS,

AND PENALTIES IF THE MICS WERE TO MAKE MORE EXTENSIVE USE OF EXISTING OR PLANNED NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, AND VICE VERSA.

THE JCEWG HAS PREPARED AN INTERIM REPORT (AC/270-D/122) ON ITS PROGRESS. TWO ELEMENTS OF THIS REPORT STAND OUT. FIRST THE JCEWG CONCLUDED THAT CONSOLIDATION OF COMMUNICATIONS APPEARS TO HAVE CONSIDERABLE POTENTIAL FOR RATIONALIZATION, AND SECOND THE JCEWG CONCLUDED THAT IT CANNOT MAKE A SUBSTANTIVE REPORT ON MEASURES TO ACHIEVE CONSOLIDATION UNTIL SOME UNDETERMINED TIME IN THE FUTURE.

IF THIS REPORT FOLLOWS NORMAL PROCEDURES, THE NJCEC WILL CONSIDER IT IN LATE MARCH, AND THE EWG WILL RECEIVE IT SOMETIME IN APRIL. SURELY THIS SLOW PROGRESS IS UNSATISFACTORY ON A MATTER ENJOYING EXPRESS MINISTERIAL INTEREST AND SUPPORT. I THEREFORE PROPOSE : (A) THAT THE EWG CONSIDER THE JCEWG REPORT WITHOUT AWAITING NJCEC ACTION ON IT; (B) THAT YOU ASK THE JCEWG TO PREPARE A COVER LETTER TO THE REPORT IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC ACTIONS REQUIRING HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL SUPPORT HERE OR AT THE DPC IN ORDER FOR PROGRESS TO OCCUR IN CONSOLIDATION OF COMMUNICATIONS; AND (C) THAT THE EWG MEETING TO CONSIDER THAT REPORT AND ITS COVER LETTER BE CONVENED NOT LATER THAN THE END OF THIS MONTH.

I AM PROVIDING A COPY OF THIS LETTER TO OUR COLLEAGUES ON THE EWG AND TO THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DEFENSE SUPPORT.
END TEXT.
BRUCE.

CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO USNMR SHAPE
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